Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 107684 ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS APPROVED BY ARA:FDEVINE ARA/CEN:DCJOHNSON ARA:GLISTER S/S:SESTEINER

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P 112338Z MAY 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

SECRETSTATE 107684

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, SHUM, US, ES

SUBJECT: RELATIONS WITH THE GOES

REF:STATE 105097

1. DURING HIS INITIAL COURTESY CALL MAY 5 ON SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR BERTRAND GALINDO, ARA/CEN DIRECTOR MATTHEWS REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT THE RICHARDSON CASE AND SALVADORAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION COULD LEAD TO US ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT SERIOUSLY AFFECT OUR GOOD RELATIONS UNLESS WE CAN QUICKLY SHOW SOME EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS ON SALVADORAN SIDE. MATTHEWS DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT THESE ACTIONS MIGHT BE, BUT MENTIONED THE EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE MILITARY AID TERMINATION AND THE PRIVATE WASHINGTON OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND OTHERS RECOMMENDING THAT WE VOTE IN THE IDB AGAINST SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 107684

THE SAN LORENZO POWER LOAN. MATTHEWS ALSO STRESSED THAT AMB. LOZANO WAS ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTION IN HIS DEMARCHES ON THE RICHARDSON CASE.

2. BERTRAND GALINDO SAID HE HAD EMPHASIZED THE DANGER OF ALLOWING THESE MATTERS, PARTICULARLY THE RICHARDSON CASE, TO PREJUDICE SALVADOR'S RELATIONS WITH US DURING HIS

CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BORGONOVO ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO EL SALVADOR. HE CLAIMED BORGONOVO HAD AGREED TO TRY TO RESOLVE THE RICHARDSON MATTER IN A MANNER SATISFACTORY TO THE USG, BUT THAT BORGONOVO'S KIDNAPPING HAD APPARENTLY STOPPED ANY FURTHER ACTION ON THE RICHARDSON CASE BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. MATTHEWS EXPRESSED REGRET AT THE BORGONOVO KIDNAPPING, BUT EMPHASIZED THE URGENT NEED FOR BERTRANDGALINDO TO IMPEL THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OR OTHERS IN THE GOES TO QUICKLY PRODUCE A SATISFACTORY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT OR TO OTHERWISE RESOLVE THE RICHARDSON CASE IN A FORTHCOMING WAY. MATTHEWS ADDED THAT AWAITING THE HOPED FOR RETURN OF BORGONOVO BEFORE RESOLVING THIS CASE COULD ALLOW THE EVOLUTION OF EVENTS FURTHER DAMAGING OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND PREJUDICIAL TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GOES. CHRISTOPHER

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Subject: RELATIONS WITH THE GOES

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, SHUM, US, ES, (RICHARDSON, RONALD JAMES), (GALINDO, BERTRAND)

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